

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (New) An accelerator pedal comprising:

a stopper member attached to a floor of a driver's seat of the vehicle;

a pad member having a pad for receiving a depression force exerted by a driver;

a stopper fitting section provided on the pad member and including nails to be fitted into the stopper member and supporting plates connecting the pad member and the nails;

nail catch sections provided in the stopper member and against which the nails are hooked; a hinge section provided for connecting the pad member and the stopper fitting section, wherein

the nails are inserted toward the nail catch sections with the supporting plates bent inwardly from an initial state,

the nails are hooked against the nail catch sections after the insertion with the supporting plates returned to the initial state, and

a backup plate is provided which prevents the supporting plates from being deformed from the initial state, so that the backup plate secures the reliable engagement between the nails and the nail catch sections.

5. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 4, wherein the backup plate urges the nails upward to secure the reliable engagement between the nails and the nail catch sections.

6. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 4, wherein the backup plate has a nail relief hole into which one of the nails enters while the nails are hooked against the nail catch sections.

7. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 5, wherein the backup plate has a nail relief hole into which one of the nails enters while the nails are hooked against the nail catch sections

8. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 4, wherein a first release hole is provided in the stopper fitting section and a second release hole is provided in the stopper member around the nail catch section in alignment with the first release hole, so that inserting a thin rod through the first and second release holes allows the backup plate to be depressed, thereby disengaging a hooked engagement between the nails and the backup plate.

9. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 5, wherein a first release hole is provided in the stopper fitting section and a second release hole is provided in the stopper member around the nail catch section in alignment with the first release hole, so that inserting a thin rod through the first and second release holes allows the backup plate to be depressed, thereby disengaging a hooked engagement between the nails and the backup plate.

10. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 6, wherein a first release hole is provided in the stopper fitting section and a second release hole is provided in the stopper member around the nail catch section in alignment with the first release hole, so that inserting a thin rod through the first and second release holes allows the

backup plate to be depressed, thereby disengaging a hooked engagement between the nails and the backup plate.

11. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 7, wherein a first release hole is provided in the stopper fitting section and a second release hole is provided in the stopper member around the nail catch section in alignment with the first release hole, so that inserting a thin rod through the first and second release holes allows the backup plate to be depressed, thereby disengaging a hooked engagement between the nails and the backup plate.

12. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 4, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

13. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 5, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

14. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 6, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

15. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 7, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

16. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 8, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

17. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 9, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

18. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 10, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.

19. (New) An accelerator pedal according to claim 11, wherein the pad member, the hinge section, the stopper fitting section are integrally molded by a single resin material.